

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

~~19~~ 18. (Currently Amended) A retaining wall block, adapted for assembly into a retaining wall system and its securement therein by a stabilizing element, said retaining wall system including a plurality of stacked rows of at least a plurality of said blocks, said block comprising:

left, right, front and rear body portions; and

at least one groove adapted to receive said stabilizing element, said groove extending laterally rearward of the front body portion and forward of the rear body portion or laterally between the left and right body portions.

~~20~~ 19. (Currently Amended) The securable retaining wall block of claim 18 ~~19~~, wherein said groove comprises a channel sufficiently deep to permit the stabilizing element to be contained therein.

~~21~~ 20. (Currently Amended) The securable retaining wall block of claim 18 ~~19~~, wherein said groove supports an anchoring element secured to the stabilizing element.